



DECLE27.001APC

PATENT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Vannuffel et al. ) Group Art Unit 1634  
)  
Appl. No. : 09/509,234 ) I hereby certify that this correspondence  
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Filed : September 25, 2000 ) deposited with the United States Postal  
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For : GENETIC SEQUENCES, ) addressed to: United States Patent and  
) Trademark Office, P.O. Box 2327,  
DIAGNOSTIC AND/OR ) Arlington, VA 22202, on  
QUANTIFICATION )  
METHODS AND DEVICES ) January 3, 2003  
FOR THE IDENTIFICATION ) (Date)  
OF STAPHYLOCOCCI ) Catherine M. Sanders  
STRAINS ) Catherine M. Sanders, Reg. No. 50,660  
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Examiner : C. J. Myers )

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AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED JULY 3, 2002

JAN 09 2003

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TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed July 3, 2002 (Paper # 19), please amend the above-captioned patent application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

**Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 8, line 16 as follows:**

Preferably, the oligonucleotide according to the invention is selected from the group consisting of the following nucleotide sequences:

- ANAATGAANTTTACNAATTTNACNGCNANAGANTT (SEQ ID NO: 2) and more particularly *femS1* TAATGAAGTTTACAAAATTT (SEQ ID NO: 3) or *femS2* TAATGAAGTTTACNAAATTT (SEQ ID NO: 4)
- ATGNCNNANAGNCATTTNACNCANA (SEQ ID NO: 5) and more particularly *femU1* ("universal" sequence sense of the multiplex PCR): TGCCATATAGTCATTTACGC (SEQ ID NO: 6)
- TAGTNGGNATNAANAANAANNATAANGANGTNATTGC (SEQ ID NO: 7)